



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE THIRTEEN
DETACHMENT KEY WEST
NAVAL AIR STATION KEY WEST
KEY WEST, FL 33040-9001

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5750
N00/007
1 Feb 06

From: Commanding Officer, Fighter Squadron Composite 13 DET
Key West
To: Director, Naval Historical Center, Washington, D.C.
Subj: FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPOSITE 13 DETACHMENT KEY WEST (VFC-13
DET KEY WEST) CALENDAR YEAR 2005 COMMAND HISTORY
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G
Encl: (1) Commanding Officer's Biography
(2) Commanding Officer's Picture

1. Per reference (a), the following shore activity historical data is forwarded:

2. Command Composition and Organization:

a. VFC-13 DET Key West / 52923

b. The "Bandits" of VFC-13 DET Key West are charged with providing threat representative aircraft, tactics and weapon systems for fleet strike fighter pilots to oppose during Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS) detachments.

c. Immediate superior in command is Captain Michael E. Cross, Commander, Carrier Air Wing Reserve TWENTY (CVWR-20), located at NAS Atlanta, Marietta, GA.

Commanding Officer: CDR James P. Dimatteo
Executive Officer: CDR Craig R. Dugan
Command Senior Chief: AECS(AW) William M. Perez

d. Type and number of aircraft assigned: 12 Northrop F-5N/F "Tiger II" aircraft sporting the tail code "AF".

3. Chronology:

(1) Safe for Flight Inspection: November 29th, 2005 through December 2nd, 2005, NAS Key West, CVWR-20 Inspection.

(2) First Squadron Flights: December 2nd, 2005, NAS Key West, 14 Sorties, 14.3 Hours.

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(3) Adversary Support: December 5th, 2005 through December 16th, 2005, NAS Key West, 99 Sorties, 115.1 Hours. Supported VFA-106 E/F (A/A TRAINING).

Calendar Year 2005 Flight Support

HOURS 88.0 SORTIES 86

4. Narrative:

The "Bandits" of VFC-13 Detachment Key West officially stood up as a U.S. Naval Reserve Component Detachment on October 1st, 2005, with the first squadron personnel arriving and beginning initial setup procedures in July 2005. The logistics of standing up the detachment included the initial creation of all command programs, both operational and administrative. A precedent-setting example of alignment and management of the Sikorsky civilian maintenance department with the command's Maintenance Monitoring Team was made, resulting in the safe arrival and incorporation of 12 F-5N/F aircraft into the command maintenance program. Additionally, the command procured, assembled and installed over 246,000 dollars in furniture totaling 559 pieces, and coordinated with NAS Key West's base Automated Information Systems (AIS) department in bringing the command's AIS abilities to an online operational status. These significant accomplishments were made despite VFC-13 DET Key West personnel executing three required evacuations for Hurricanes Dennis (July 9th), Rita (September 20th), and Wilma (October 23rd). Additionally, the detachment battened down and endured Hurricane Katrina as it traveled southbound through South Florida eliminating the evacuation option.

Despite Mother Nature's best attempts, VFC-13 DET Key West overcame adversity and proceeded with the CVWR-20 Safe for Flight Inspection on November 25th, 2005. The detachment passed the inspection and was deemed Safe for Flight on December 2nd, 2005. On December 2nd, 2005 VFC-13 DET Key West executed it's inaugural flight schedule of 14 sorties.

VFC-13 DET Key West has since supported it's first Fighter Weapons Training detachment from VFA-106 E/F. The "Bandits" flew 99 sorties and 115.1 hours in support of this very successful Detachment. VFC-13 DET Key West is fully prepared to support a busy schedule of Fighter Detachments for Calendar Year 2006 utilizing a flight hour allotment of over 3000 hours. The

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Detachment's total commitment and dedication to its mission of training Fleet Strike Fighter pilots will earn the "Bandits" the reputation of being the best Adversary Squadron in the world today.

5. A picture and biography of the VFC-13 Detachment Key West Commanding Officer are included as enclosures (1) and (2).


J. P. DIMATTEO